



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, July 29, 2020 – Budget Workshop

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Council President Horn called the July 29, 2020 City Council budget workshop to order.

The following attendance is noted:

Council Attendees

John Dowless, Mayor
Richard Alan Horn, Council President
Susan Lomas Council Member
Ben Pierce, Council Member
Chris Rader, Council Member

Absent

Council Member Lee Chotas

Staff

Bea L. Meeks, City Clerk
John Freeburg, Police Chief
Shannon Patterson, PD Manager

DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS (Provided in order of discussion)

- City Clerk Meeks directed the Mayor and Council Members to documents placed at their dais seat. She pointed out that they were provided with: (1) A copy of an email from Tammy Campbell from McDermit-Davis, (2) An estimate for replacement and/or cleaning signage from "itsyoursign", (3) A copy of the tree inventory done by Steve Ogden, Central Florida Arborcare and (4) A copy of the Roads & Street Inventory. City Clerk Meeks told Council that this is information they may want to refer to during the budget discussions.
- Council Member Rader pointed out that beginning on column 154, the variance column was not correct. City Clerk Meeks said she would get this corrected.
- City Clerk Meeks said that she prepared the budget based on 5.25 mills because it was Council's goal to not increase the millage rate. She confirmed that the approved tentative millage rate was 5.35 mills.
- Mayor Dowless said that updating the City's Capital Improvement Plan and complete the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Officers is important to the City's budget. In response to the Mayor, Chief Freeburg explained the Union's request for a 6-4-4 pay scale increase. He explained that the City Attorney said 4-3-3 with an option to re-open annually. The Mayor said he is concerned about next year's budget. Chief Freeburg said if you take out salaries, his department's increase was seven-thousand dollars (\$7000). In response to Council Member

Rader, Chief Freeburg said his payroll increase per employee was four percent (4%). Council member Rader said that City Hall staff should have the same increase.

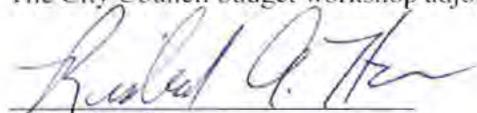
- Chief Freeburg explained that the off-duty revenues and expenditures are a pass-through in the City budget.
- Council Member Rader said he wanted to discuss the City's fund balance. He noted the City Charter requirement that the unrestricted reserves cannot exceed 75% of the gross annual revenues. City Clerk said currently, the City is at 77%.
- Mayor Dowless said it needs to be decided where "we" are comfortable in reserves. Council Member Rader said he agrees with using reserves for capital spending. Mayor Dowless said he is okay with amending the Roads & Streets' budget if it is favorable to moving forward with a budget.
- In response to Council Member Rader, Chief Freeburg said his budget was tight in the current fiscal year budget, which is why he increased it in the 2020/2021 budget. He said his department received a car grant, which is why he increased his vehicle repair budget. The Chief said he feels his budget is where it needs to be.
- In response to Council President Horn, Chief Freeburg explained why his department is currently not providing fingerprinting services; it all ties into COVID.
- Deputy City Clerk Riffle reported that development submittals are currently not active; however, they are not going away either. No plans have been withdrawn.
- Mayor Dowless said he will have someone review and compare the proposal from Jallad Insurance to FMIT's policy rates and coverages.
- Discussion held regarding splitting the Code Enforcement and Administrative Assistant position. Mayor Dowless said he has been in contact with Belle Isle City Manager regarding contracting their Code Enforcement services.
- Mayor Dowless said that some of the proposed budget for renovations would be to add a large screen TV in Council Chamber.
- Mayor Dowless said that PD Chief of Staff Shannon Patterson is getting quotes for adding power to Bagshaw Park. PD Chief of Staff Shannon Patterson has received estimates of \$3000 to \$4000.
- Council Member Rader said he would like for Tammy at McDirmit-Davis to provide a year-end estimate of net revenues and expenses.
- PD Chief of Staff Shannon Patterson explained that the City will be amending their Agreement with Gatso, which will result in a decrease in the monthly invoice.

At the close of the workshop, City Clerk Meeks summarized the directions of Council as follows:

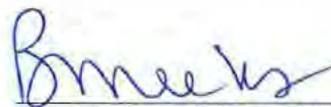
- Per Council Direction, correct the "Variance" column beginning with line 154.
- Per Council direction provide the amounts of the State Revenues: Municipal Revenue Sharing-Communications Service Tax-Half-Cent Sales.
- (Revenue) Per Council direction, increased Land Use Fees from \$20,000 to \$30,000.
- (Revenue) Per Council direction, decreased Red Light Citation from \$555,000 to \$547,000.
- (Expenditure) Per Council direction align City Hall staff payroll increase with the Police Department's payroll increase. Make adjustments to payroll taxes and FRS to align with payroll increase.
- (Expenditure) Per Council direction correct description of candidates by removing Mayor as candidate in the 20/21 municipal election (housekeeping item).
- (Expenditure) Per Council direction, decrease Code Enforcement Magistrate from \$4500 to \$3000.
- (Expenditure) Per Council direction, decrease Red Light Hearing Officer from \$5000 to \$2000.
- (Expenditure) Per Council direction. decrease Solid Waste Cost (Residential) from \$257,512 to \$216,000.
- (Expenditure) Per Council direction, decrease Red Light Citations from \$450,000 to \$410,000.
- (Expenditure) Per council direction, recalculate the Police Department and City Hall health and life insurance in accordance with the rate FMIT provides.
- Request that Tammy at McDirmit-Davis provide a year-end estimate of net revenues and expenses.

ADJOURNMENT

The City Council budget workshop adjourn at 11:14 a.m.



Richard A. Horn
Council President



Bea L. Meeks, MMC, CPM, CBTO
City Clerk

Approved on

*Workshop was recorded/recording stopped in the early part of the meeting and was restarted.